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Journal

Office of Legislative Counsel

Thursday - 19 November 1953

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1. I discussed with Mr. Morton, Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations, the relation of CIA field personnel to visiting Congressional delegations. I discussed the expense involved in keeping our stations informed regarding these visits, and pointed out the problem set forth in Mr. Dulles' letter to General Smith of 15 September 1953 and the airgram which the State Department had sent to the field as a result of that letter. Upon reviewing the problem, Mr. Morton stated that he would have instructions sent to the field at once requesting each station to inform the senior CIA representative of each impending Congressional arrival as an addendum to their previous instructions. Mr. Morton instructed Mr. Leahy of his staff to inform my office by telephone of every impending Congressional trip and schedule. CIA will undertake to inform its overseas personnel that there should be no contact with any Congressional delegation unless specific instructions to the contrary are sent from headquarters. Mr. Morton was extremely cooperative and more than willing to do whatever we requested.

2. Mr. Morton stated that there had been some light grumbling about CIA on Capitol Hill during the past session, largely on the basis that "We don't know what they are doing; we ought to take a look at them." Some of this grumbling apparently came from Appropriations Committee members.

3. Mr. Morton stated that there was a considerable problem over the impending trip to the Middle East of Congressman Celler (D., N.Y.). Cong. Celler has requested permission to stay at the Embassy in Cairo for his own safety in Egypt. The Department has never requested an Embassy to put up a Congressman and they are somewhat disturbed by the whole trip.

State Dept. declassification & release instructions on file

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4. Miss Brune, of the office of Cong. Hand (R., N.J.), stated that the parents of [redacted], a CIA employee in [redacted] had not heard from her for the past month (although she had been a regular correspondent), nor had they had a reply to their cable of 4 or 5 days ago. I informed Miss Brune that we had sent a cable abroad to urge that Miss [redacted] be in touch with her parents or to ascertain if there were anything wrong.

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5. Mr. Kirkpatrick has talked with [redacted] who advised him that when she had reported back to her branch that her aunt was outraged at their comments about Senator McCarthy but that actually she had been brought into the Committee by Senator Hoey, the branch told [redacted] that they had merely been joking and had not expected her to take it seriously.

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